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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Makoto WATANABE, et al.

Examiner: Dung Nguyen

TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

Serial No.: 09/364,423

Art Unit: 2871

Filed: July 30, 1999

Docket: 12854

For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE

Dated: January 18, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

#6/2 election
marsha
3/6/02

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Sir:


Pursuant to the Restriction Requirement imposed in the Office Action dated December 27, 2001, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group A, i.e., Claims 2, 6, 9, 12, 16, 20 and 24-27, for continued prosecution herein.

Claims 1-27 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 18, 2002.

Dated: January 18, 2002


Janet Grossman

A) A liquid crystal display in which a liquid crystal component having a positive dielectric constant anisotropy (Claims 2,6, 9, 12, 16, 20 and 27).

(B) A liquid crystal display in which a liquid crystal component having a negative dielectric constant anisotropy (Claims 3-4, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14, 17-18 and 21-22).

It is the Examiner's position that Groups A and B are patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

Further, the Examiner states that Claim 1 is generic.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group A, Claims 2, 6, 9, 12, 16, 20 and 24-27. However, Applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims in this application.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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PJE:ahs